

Flood Response Fact Sheet

“Staying Safe after a Flood”

1. Electrical Hazards - Be certain there are no electrical shock hazards caused by floods
 - Do not touch electrical appliances that have been in contact with water.
 - Turn off electricity and unplug appliances, computers, and other electronic equipment in wet areas.
 - Surge protectors and extension cords that have been in contact with water can cause an electrical hazard.
 - Keep all appliances, electronics, and other electrical equipment turned off which have become wet until they have been thoroughly dried and checked for proper operation.
2. Slips/Trips/Falls - Avoid tripping hazards caused by floods
 - Floor surfaces can become slick when wet, use caution.
 - Steps in stairwells and ladders can become slick when wet, use caution.
 - Extension cords and hoses from blowers and dehumidifiers can cause tripping hazards.
 - Debris on the floor such as boxes and fallen ceiling tile can cause tripping hazards.
3. Falling objects - Avoid falling object hazards caused by floods
 - Wet ceiling tile can become a hazard when wet.
 - Avoid standing below swollen or broken ceiling tile
4. Contact DOHS, TAB, to have the area evaluated for high moisture contents, visible mold growth, dislodged asbestos flooring, etc.
 - ORF Water/Mold Remediation Policy,
<http://www.ors.od.nih.gov/sr/dohs/Documents/MoldSOP.pdf>
 - DOHS contact information, Building 13, Room 3K04
301-496-3353
 - OMS contact information, Building 10, Room 6C306
301-496-4411
5. Post Flood Safety Checklist (Laboratory and/or Office). This document can be used to verify safe condition following a flood event.

Post Flood Safety Checklist (Laboratory and/or Office)

Bldg. #: _____ Room/Area: _____

Surveyed by: _____

General Survey	Yes	No	N/A	Comments
The source of the flood has been resolved?				
If necessary, have the water damaged materials (e.g. boxes, paper, etc.) been removed?				
Areas affected by the flood dry?				
There is no visible mold growth?				
Is the construction complete?				
All casework installed properly?				
The construction debris has been cleared?				
Have all construction equipment, tools, and supplies been removed from the area?				
Floors, walls, and ceilings have no cracks or openings?				
Lighting is adequate for all activities?				
There's 36" passage width for emergency egress?				
Fire doors not propped open?				
Floors areas are not wet or slippery? If so, are warning signs displayed?				
If the flood occurred in a stairwell area, stairways are in good repair with handrails and non-slip treads?				
Emergency lights function properly?				
Has DEP/DOHS been contacted to determine if asbestos is potentially present in the room/location?				
Electrical	Yes	No	N/A	Comments
Electrical outlets working and properly grounded?				
Electrical outlets protected by G.F.C.I. if they are within 3 feet of a water source?				
There are no exposed electrical wires?				
All electrical equipment are off the floor?				
Lab Specific	Yes	No	N/A	Comments
<i>Engineering Controls:</i> Engineering controls (e.g., BSCs, CFHs, etc.) were not affected?				
Airflow is negative to the corridor?				
<i>Gas Systems:</i> Does the gas system function properly? If compressed gas cylinders will be present, they have adequate/appropriate securing means?				
Is the proper signage on the laboratory door (biosafety level, high magnetic field, highly hazardous work, etc.)?				
Will the occupants be able to work at the appropriate biosafety level in the laboratory?				
All emergency equipment including safety showers, eyewashes, sprinklers, fire extinguishers, and fire alarm pull stations have unobstructed access?				
Office Specific	Yes	No	N/A	Comments
There are no wrinkled carpets/mats that may potentially be a trip hazard?				
Extension cords and power strips are used properly?				
Have all debris and dust been properly cleared/cleaned?				